

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Wilson on 4/17/08 and 4/29/08.

3. **The first paragraph on page 1 of specification** has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/630,666, filed August 1, 2000, titled "Can device featuring advanced can filtering and message acceptance", now U.S. Patent No. 6,732,254 which ~~This application~~ claims the full benefit and priority of U.S. Provisional Application Serial Number 60/154,022, filed on September 15, 1999, the disclosure of which is fully incorporated herein for all purposes.

4. The claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 45. (Currently amended) The device as set forth in Claim 44, wherein:
a received message to be acceptance filtered comprises a standard CAN frame; and,
the multi-bit screener ID field comprises 11 bits of a CAN ID field of a header portion of the standard CAN frame, 8 bits of a first data byte of the standard CAN frame, 8 bits of a second data byte of the standard CAN frame, two don't care bits, and an IDE bit.

Claim 47. (Currently amended) The device as set forth in Claim 43, wherein:
a received message to be acceptance filtered comprises an extended CAN frame; and,

the multi-bit screener ID ~~field~~ comprises 29 bits of a CAN ID field of a header portion of ~~the a~~ standard CAN frame, and an IDE bit.

Claim 54. (Currently amended) The processor of Claim 48, wherein:

a received message to be acceptance filtered comprises a standard CAN frame; and,

the multi-bit screener ID ~~field~~ comprises 11 bits of a CAN ID field of a header portion of the standard CAN frame, 8 bits of a first data byte of the standard CAN frame, 8 bits of a second data byte of the standard CAN frame, two don't care bits, and an IDE bit.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 43-57 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a module that processes incoming messages, wherein the module: assembles a multi-bit screener ID from selected bits of each incoming message to be acceptance filtered; compares the bits comprising the multi-bit screener ID with corresponding bits of the object match ID field associated with each of at least designated ones of the plurality n of message objects, disregarding any bits of each object match ID field that are masked by corresponding bits of the associated object mask field; and, determines whether any of the comparisons results in a match; wherein any selected one or more bits of the object match ID field associated with each of the plurality n of message objects can be set to '1' or '0', and any selected one or more bits of the object mask field associated with each of the plurality n of message objects can be set to '1' or '0' in order to mask any selected one or more bits of the associated object match ID field, whereby the combination of the object match ID

field and the object mask field associated with each of the plurality n of message objects comprises a fully programmable match and mask filter.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRIAN D. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-3084. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-6:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on (571) 272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Art Unit: 2616

6/19/08

/Brian D Nguyen/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2616